

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2016, Legislative Day No. 6

Bill No. 23-16

Introduced by Mr. Fink, Chairman (by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, March 21, 2016

Introduced and first read on March 21, 2016
Public Hearing set for and held on April 18, 2016
Public Hearing on AMENDED BILL set for and held on May 2, 2016
Public Hearing on SECOND AMENDED BILL set for and held on May 16, 2016
Public Hearing on THIRD AMENDED BILL set for and held on June 6, 2016
Bill Expires June 24, 2016

By Order: Elizabeth E. Jones, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ORDINANCE concerning: Subdivision and Development - Peer Expedited Review
2	Program
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4	FOR the purpose of establishing a voluntary peer expedited review program for
5	development plan review that permits third-party review of subdivision or site
6	development engineered water and sewer, road, storm drain, stormwater management
7	or grading plans by reviewers certified and referred by the County; granting other
8	County agencies the power to administer the peer expedited review program;
9	providing for expedited County review of peer expedited reviewed plans; providing
10	that annual reports be submitted to the County Council describing the implementation
11	of the peer expedited review program; requiring website posting of all applications
12	being reviewed; providing for the termination date of this Ordinance; and generally
13	relating to subdivision and development.
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15	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: § 17-2-104
16	Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)
17	
18	BY adding: § 17-2-111
19	Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

EXPLANATION:

CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

Strikeover indicates matter stricken from bill by amendment.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

ARTICLE 17. SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT

TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

17-2-104. Administration and interpretation.

This article is administered and interpreted by the Planning and Zoning Officer and the Office of Planning and Zoning, EXCEPT THAT THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 17-2-111 MAY ALSO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.

17-2-111. Peer Expedited Review Program.

(A) **Program established.** THERE IS A PEER AN EXPEDITED REVIEW PROGRAM THAT MAY BE UTILIZED IN LIEU OF THE REVIEW PROCESS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE FOR SUBDIVISION AND SITE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERED WATER AND SEWER, ROAD, STORM DRAIN, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OR GRADING PLANS OUTSIDE THE CRITICAL AREA OVERLAY.

 (B) **Generally.** A DEVELOPER MAY ELECT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROGRAM AND CONTRACT FOR PRIVATE REVIEW OF SUBDIVISION OR SITE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERED WATER AND SEWER, ROAD, STORM DRAIN, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OR GRADING PLANS BY PEER REVIEWERS CERTIFIED BY THE COUNTY.

(C) **Process and Procedure.** THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS, FORMS AND COMPLIANCE CHECKLISTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROGRAM, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS.

(1) ALL PEER EXPEDITED REVIEWS SHALL BE AT THE SOLE COST OF THE DEVELOPER.

(2) ALL POTENTIAL PEER CERTIFIED REVIEWERS SHALL MEET MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.

 (3) THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS SHALL MAINTAIN A ROTATION LIST OF ALL CERTIFIED REVIEWERS AND REFER REQUESTS FOR REVIEW FROM THE LIST OF CERTIFIED REVIEWERS ON A ROTATION. THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS SHALL DETERMINE WHICH CERTIFIED REVIEWERS RECEIVED THE LAST REQUEST AND REFER THE REQUESTING APPLICANT THE NAMES OF THE NEXT THREE CERTIFIED REVIEWERS ON THE LIST TO REVIEW THE APPLICATION. THE APPLICANT SHALL NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS OF THEIR SELECTION OF A CERTIFIED REVIEWER WITHIN THREE DAYS OF EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH A CERTIFIED REVIEWER.

 (3) (4) CERTIFIED PEER REVIEWERS SHALL ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY THE COUNTY FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS OR LIABILITIES ARISING OUT OF NEGLIGENT ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE PEER CERTIFIED REVIEWER.

(4) (5) ALL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN APPROVAL BY PEER CERTIFIED REVIEWERS ARE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.

(5) (6) NOTWITHSTANDING A RECOMMENDATION FOR PLAN APPROVAL BY A CERTIFIED PEER REVIEWER, FINAL PLAN APPROVAL AUTHORITY REMAINS SOLELY WITH THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.

(6) (7) CERTIFIED PEER REVIEWERS MAY NOT HAVE AN INTEREST, AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN § 7-1-101 OF THIS CODE, IN ANY PROJECT IN WHICH THEY ARE RETAINED TO PERFORM A PEER REVIEW OR HAVE AN INTEREST IN ANY OTHER PROJECT OR BUSINESS ENTITY OF THE DEVELOPER WHO IS REQUESTING EXPEDITED REVIEW FROM THE REVIEWER, OR IN ANY BUSINESS ENTITY IN WHICH THE DEVELOPER AND THE REVIEWER HAVE A SHARED INTEREST. CERTIFIED REVIEWERS SHALL DISCLOSE ANY INTEREST IN PROJECTS OR BUSINESSES AS PART OF THE QUALIFICATION PROCESS AND HAVE AN AFFIRMATIVE DUTY TO UPDATE THE DISCLOSURE ANNUALLY.

(7) (8) THE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE A PROCESS TO ADDRESS COMPLAINTS REGARDING PEER CERTIFIED REVIEWERS AND REMEDIES, INCLUDING DECERTIFICATION.

(D) In lieu of County review. PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN LIEU OF THE COUNTY REVIEW PROCESS UNDER TITLE 3 AND TITLE 4 OF THIS ARTICLE, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL PLANS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW SHALL BE REVIEWED BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF STATE AND COUNTY LAW, AND MAY NOT BE APPROVED UNTIL FULL COMPLIANCE IS CONFIRMED.

(E) Time for final review. FINAL PLAN REVIEW BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS OF SUBDIVISION AND SITE—DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERED WATER AND SEWER, ROAD, STORM DRAIN, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OR GRADING PLANS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY A CERTIFIED PEER REVIEWER SHALL BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER APPLICATION FOR FINAL REVIEW FOR MINOR SUBDIVISION PLANS, AND 20 DAYS AFTER APPLICATION FOR FINAL REVIEW FOR MAJOR SUBDIVISIONS AND SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANS CERTIFICATION AND WRITTEN REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FROM A CERTIFIED REVIEWER.

(F) Reporting to County Council. NO LATER THAN JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE PLANNING AND ZONING OFFICER, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING, THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS, THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL DESCRIBING THE OPERATION OF THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROGRAM, INCLUDING A SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM FROM THE PRECEDING YEAR, THE NUMBER OF PEER CERTIFIED REVIEWERS APPROVED, THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS THAT ELECTED AND COMPLETED THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROCESS, THE TIME FRAME FOR PROJECTS TO COMPLETE THE PEER EXPEDITED REVIEW PROCESS, AND ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.

 (G) Disclosure of Expedited Review Election. THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING AND DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS SHALL MAINTAIN A LIST ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE OF ALL PROJECTS FOR WHICH A DEVELOPER HAS OPTED FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW BY A CERTIFIED REVIEWER. THE LIST SHALL INCLUDE THE DATE OF

Bill No. 23-16 Page No. 4

REQUEST, TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED AND THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REVIEWED APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING OR DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS.

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SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, That the provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in effect for two years from the date this Ordinance becomes effective, after which it shall stand repealed and with no further action required by the County Council, be of no further force and effect.

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SECTION 2 $\underline{3}$. And be it further enacted, That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days from the date it becomes law.

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED: April 18 and May 2 and 16, 2016

READ AND PASSED this 6th day of June, 2016

By Order:

Elizabeth E. Jones Administrative Officer

PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 7th day of June, 2016

Elizabeth E. Jones Admitastrative Officer

APPROVED AND ENACTED this day of June, 2016

Steven R. Schuh
County Executive

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 22, 2016

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF BILL NO.

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OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Elizapein E. Jones Administrative Officer